

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 23, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 23, 2004.

Claims 1 -18 are amended in the Application.

I. Claim Objections

The Office Action objected to the Claims 1-16 and 18 because of informalities.

Applicant amended Claims 1 and 18 to state "wherein the pod comprises a housing and an electric motor contained within the housing", as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant amended Claims 1 and 18 to state "at least one heading sensor connected to the dynamic positioning computer", as suggested by the Examiner. Support for this amendment is found in Paragraph [00034] of the Specification as filed.

Applicant amended Claims 2-16 to state "systems" so that the claims include all of the limitations of claim 1, as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant amended Claim 9 to state "and the motor is driven by silicon-controlled rectifier (SCR) drive." This amendment clarifies the motor is driven by a SCR drive. Support for this amendment is found in Paragraph 34 of the Specification as filed

Applicant believes no new matter has been added with these amendments. Reconsideration of the objection to the claims is respectfully requested.

II. Claim Rejections – 35 USC 112

The Office Action rejected Claims 17 as being indefinite for failing to point out particularly and claim distinctly the claimed subject matter.

Applicant amended Claim 17 to clarify that the claimed subject matter is a waterborne vessel utilizing the systems recited in Claim 1. Applicant amended Claim 17 to include all of the limitations of Claim 1.

Applicant believes no new matter has been added with these amendments. Applicant believes that Claim 17 as amended is allowable in light of the Office Action and the remarks herein. Reconsideration of the rejection to Claim 17 is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes no new fees are required with these amendments, but the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 50-1313 in the name of Buskop Law Group

III. Allowable Subject Matter

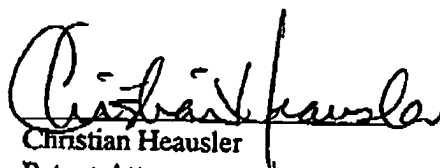
Per the Examiner, Claims 1-16 and 18 contain allowable subject if amended to overcome the rejections and objections cited in the Office Action. Applicant believes the amendments to overcome the rejections and objections have been duly noted in this Response.

Per the Examiner, Claim 17 contains allowable subject if amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112. Applicant believes the amendments to overcome the rejection have been duly noted in this Response.

Reconsideration of the claims is requested in view of the amendments described herein.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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